

REMARKS

This is responsive to the Office Action that was mailed on February 24, 2004. Claim 1 is amended to elucidate certain aspects of the claimed liquid dispensing apparatus. A minor formal amendment is made to claim 6. Claim 10 is cancelled without prejudice to its subject matter. New claim 12 is presented, based upon claim 1 as amended, but omitting the recitation of the hook, the pivot, and so on. No new matter is believed to be introduced by this Amendment. Claims 1-9, 11, and 12 are in the application.

PRIORITY PAPERS. Applicant filed certified copies of the priority documents on August 16, 2001. A recent check of the P.A.I.R. system indicated that the PTO had in fact received those papers. The Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to the entry in the electronic copy of the application under "Mail Room Date" 11/24/2003. This late mail room date may indicate that the priority documents have just recently been associated with the file by the PTO.

RESTRICTION. In response to the requirement for restriction, non-elected claim 10 has been cancelled.

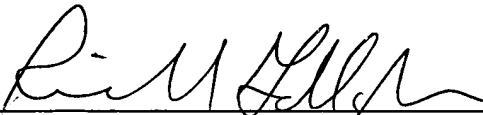
REJECTION. Claims 1, 4, 5, 9, and 11 were rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 as failing to define the invention properly. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 4, 5, 9, and 11 as amended (as well as new claim 12) herein satisfy the requirements of the statute.

Should there be any outstanding issues to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Richard Gallagher (Reg. No. 28,781) at (703) 205-8008.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By  #28,781
Terrell C. Birch, #19,382

TCB/RG:kss
0397-0425P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000